

# The Celebration of the Gospel

May 16, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

## Seventh Sunday of Easter

If you are a guest, we welcome you to worship and ask that you consider filling out a contact form at [www.stjohnsbr.org/guest](http://www.stjohnsbr.org/guest) so we can be in touch with you this week.



**ST. JOHN'S**

United Methodist Church

*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*

*We are a Christian community called to share our gifts through worship, witness and service so that others will know God and become disciples of Jesus Christ.*

## Dancing Toward God

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Invitation to Dance Again

Call to Worship

Lynn Cooper

This is the call!

Ready yourselves for new life.

**We lift up our heads to meet the new day.**

Get ready to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world.

**We fortify our hearts with compassion and action.**

Even when rain sets in, open those umbrellas of gratitude and set out anyway.

**For we are called to dance again!**

Dance on, Siblings in Christ!

**May our worship be full of joy and praise!**

Songs of Praise

*Christ Is the World's Light*

**Christ is the world's light, Christ and none other;  
born in our darkness, he became our brother.**

**If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:  
Glory to God on high!**

**Give God the glory, God and none other;  
give God the glory, Spirit, Son, and Father;  
give God the glory, God with us, my brother:  
Glory to God on high!**

*His Name Is Wonderful*

**His name is wonderful, his name is wonderful,  
his name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.**

**He is the mighty King, Master of everything;  
his name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.**

**He's the great Shepherd, the Rock of all ages,  
almighty God is he;**

**bow down before him, love and adore him,  
his name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.**

Prayer

Lynn Cooper

**Creator God, Redeeming Savior, Dancing Spirit,  
help us to put on our dancing shoes  
so that we can be the hands and feet  
of Jesus in the world.**

**Come and dance with us and engage with us,  
as we seek you, so that we can be risen  
with Christ and in Christ.**

**Be with us now, we pray. Amen.**

Song of Response

*Through It All*

**Through it all, through it all,  
I've learned to trust in Jesus,  
I've learned to trust in God;  
through it all, through it all,  
I've learned to depend upon God's word.**

## Stretching Our Spirits

Children's Moment

Madeline Massett

Scripture Reading

Rev. Deirdré Halliburton

Luke 24:36-53

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Prayer for Illumination

based on Psalm 19:14

**May the words of our mouths and the meditations of  
our hearts be acceptable in thy sight, thou who are  
our strength and our redeemer. Amen.**

Sermon

"Dancing With Open Hands"

Pastor Deirdré

## Stepping Out In Response

Hymn of Faith

*Pass It On*

**It only takes a spark to get a fire going,  
and soon all those around  
can warm up in its glowing.  
That's how it is with God's love  
once you've experienced it;  
you spread his love to everyone;  
you want to pass it on.**

**What a wondrous time is spring,  
when all the trees are budding;  
the birds begin to sing,  
the flowers start their blooming.**

That's how it is with God's love  
once you've experienced it;  
you want to sing,  
it's fresh like spring,  
you want to pass it on.

I wish for you, my friend,  
this happiness that I've found;  
you can depend on him,  
it matters not where you're bound.  
I'll shout it from the mountaintop;  
I want my world to know;  
the Lord of love has come to me,  
I want to pass it on.

### Offering Our Tithes *and* Gifts to God

*We appreciate your generosity.  
Each gift enables us to be a blessing in our community.  
You may give online here: <http://www.stjohnsbr.org/give>*

### Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### Sharing in Holy Communion

*If you live in the Baton Rouge area and  
would like someone to bring Communion to your home,  
please contact us in the church office.*

### The Lord's Prayer

#### Prayer After Receiving

Pastor Lane

Eternal God, we give you thanks for  
this holy mystery in which you have  
given yourself to us.  
Grant that we may go into the world,  
dancing with your Spirit in unity and love,  
to give ourselves for others,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Benediction

Pastor Lane

### Postlude

*Thank you for worshipping with us!*

*Permission to stream music covered by  
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*Some of our liturgy and prayers were used with permission  
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# *Leaping Into Action*

### Call to Action

#### Hymn of Discipleship

*Go Ye, Go Ye Into the World*  
Go ye, go ye into the world  
and make disciples of all the nations.  
Go ye, go ye into the world,  
and I will be with you there!  
Go ye, go ye into the world  
and take the gospel to all the people.  
Go ye, go ye into the world,  
and I will be with you there!  
Go ye, go ye into the world  
and tell the story to all believers.  
Go ye, go ye into the world,  
and I will be with you there!